



## Annual Governance Statement 2023 – 2024

The Governing Body is key to the leadership and effectiveness of Crockerton School. It both supports and challenges the Head to continually improve the school and provide the best education of its pupils. This Annual Statement seeks to provide an overview of how the Governing Body operates, as well as highlighting to the school and wider community previous highlights and future focus for the school year ahead.

### Overview

There are currently nine governors from various backgrounds including parents, teachers, grandparents and members of the local community.

Who	Type of Governor	Main committee area
Nic Ilic	Ex-Officio Head Teacher	Quality of Education; Strategic
Kate Woodley	Staff Governor	Quality of Education
Judy Munro	Ex-Officio Foundation Governor	N/A
Gussie Kerr-Bonner	Chair of Governors	Strategic; Resources
Stacy Bradley	LA Appointed Governor	Health & Safety; COMPASS
Sally Branscombe	Foundation Governor	Quality of Education
Nick Martin	Foundation Governor	Quality of Education; Strategic
Matthew Young	Parent Governor	Resources; Strategic
Tony South	Parent Governor	Resources
Janette Bawden	Business & Finance Manager (non-voting)	Resources
Cara Gregory	Clerk to the Governors (non-voting)	N/A

Full Governing Body (FGB) meetings, which include all members, are held six times per academic year, one each term. In addition to these, we have three sub-committees focusing on Quality of Education (covering topics such as curriculum, attainment, progress, behaviour and SEND), Resources (covering topics such as finance, HR, H&S and premises), and Strategic (covering topics such as the school development plan, Ofsted framework, monitoring and evaluating parent and pupil views, benchmarking and financial budgets). Each Governor joins a committee based on personal knowledge and experiences. However, we also have the opportunity to attend training delivered by the Local Authority to extend our knowledge base and support us in new subject areas. In addition, individual governors also have specific responsibilities in other areas such as Special Education Needs, Safeguarding, Admissions and Whistleblowing.

### The Role and Impact of the Governing Body

The three core strategic functions of the school's Governing Body are:

- To ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- To hold the Head to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- To oversee the financial performance of the school and ensure all funds are appropriately allocated

We are committed to ensuring all our children are enabled to fulfil and exceed their potential, within a safe and positive school environment. As a Church of England school our Christian ethos and values are at the centre of helping pupils develop into role models among the school and wider community.

### **Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils:**

We are committed to ensuring a high level of teaching throughout the school, enabling the children to make continued progress during their time at Crockerton. Regular assessments into the quality of teaching across all Year groups are undertaken by the Head, and this data is presented and discussed at Full Governing Body meetings (FGB). Questioning of this data is actively encouraged and allows us to support and challenge the school where necessary.

### **Overseeing the financial performance of the school**

The Governing Body approves the school budget and ensures the school's finances are regularly monitored.

### **Examples of other Focus Areas of the Governing Body**

- We link individual governors to a curriculum area. Governors are encouraged to visit the school regularly to gain wider knowledge of how the curriculum is taught and work closely with the Subject Leaders.
- Training is an important element of being a Governor. All Governors undertake the required Safe Guarding training at the beginning of each school year. Each Governor is also encouraged to undertake training in other areas that are either new to them, or that may become an area of expertise.
- Understand the current policies of the school, and ensure these are read and any queries answered. It is then important to keep these policies at the forefront of discussion, focus and action around the strategic direction and vision of the school. This includes a wide range of areas including Child Protection, Online Safety, Attendance and Whistleblowing.
- The performance of the Head Teacher is scrutinised by a panel of members of the Governing Body in conjunction with our advisor from Wiltshire Local Authority. Educational performance and personal development targets are set for the Head that will help drive school improvement. All Governors are volunteers; (with the exception of the Head teacher and the Vicar who are "ex-officio governors) all dedicate their time and effort to produce a thriving school for our children.

Gussie Kerr-Bonner, Chair of Governors 2023-2024